

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

After the foregoing Amendment, Claims 1-32 are currently pending in this application. Claims 1-11, 13-15, 19-26 and 29-31 have been amended for clarity. Also, claims 22 and 25 were additionally amended to correct minor informalities requested by the Examiner. Claims 6 and 24 are amended to address 35 USC 101 rejections by the Examiner. Applicants submit that no new matter has been introduced into the application by these amendments.

Claim Objections

The Examiner objected to claims 22 and 25 because of various informalities. The Applicants have amended the claims to address the informalities pointed out by the Examiner.

Based on the above, the withdrawal of the objection to the claims 22 and 25 is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

Claims 6-14 and 24-30 stand rejected under 35 USC § 101 because the claimed invention is directed to a non-statutory subject matter.

Applicants have amended claims 6 and 24 by rephrasing the preamble and hereby request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the above 35 U.S.C. § 101 rejection of these claims.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner is thanked for indicating that claims 1-5, 15-20, 21-23 and 31-32 contain allowable subject matter and where claims 6-14 and 24-30 would be allowable if they overcome the 35 USC § 101 rejection.

Conclusion

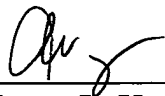
If the Examiner believes that any additional minor formal matters need to be addressed in order to place this application in condition for allowance, or that a telephone interview will help to materially advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone at the Examiner's convenience.

Applicant: Tesfai et al.
Application No.: 10/707,588

In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that the present application, including claims 1-32, is in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Tesfai et al.

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ALV/bbf
Enclosure